

independent claims.

The primary reference of Cirulli is not available as prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103, and needs to be removed from consideration. A common distinction with respect to each of the secondary references Burton, Arledge, Schweitzer, and Resnick (Callanan) is applicant's "company group" as that concept is set forth in each of the independent claims.

For the above reasons, applicants urge that the rejection of claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. 103 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

#### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Applicants urge the case be passed to issue with claims 1-15.

The Application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action by the Examiner is urged. Should differences remain, however, which do not place one/more of the remaining claims in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to phone the undersigned at the number provided below for the purpose of providing constructive assistance and suggestions in accordance with M.P.E.P. Sections 707.02(j) and 707.03 in order that allowable claims

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can be presented, thereby placing the Application in condition for allowance without further proceedings being necessary.

Sincerely,

S. P. Cason, et al.

By

  
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